

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's contentions and the rejection based thereon.

In particular, a major feature of the Fifth Embodiment of the specification of the present application is that the surface of one of the substrates (703-1-2) of the display element (703-1) on the light emitting side thereof has a spherical configuration and acts as a lens (as the Examiner acknowledges). See, e.g., page 12, lines 3-5 of the specification. The present application further states that the configuration of the Ninth Embodiment "may be implemented in arbitrary combination with any of the configurations according to the first through seventh embodiments. The EL panel of the present embodiment is advantageously used as a display portion of an electronic apparatus according to the seventh embodiment of the invention." See, e.g., page 24, lines 6-10 of the specification. The Ninth Embodiment is directed to an EL display device. Accordingly, it is clear from the present application that the features of the lens of the Fifth Embodiment can be applied to an electroluminescence (EL) display device which can be used for any of the First through Seventh Embodiments, including as the display portion of an electronic apparatus of the Seventh Embodiment. In other words, the specification of the present application discloses that a substrate on the light emitting side in the electroluminescence display device, as discussed for the Ninth Embodiment, can be used as a lens, as in the Fifth Embodiment, and used in the apparatus of the First through Seventh Embodiments since page 24 states that the structure of the Ninth Embodiment of an EL display device can be implemented in the First through Seventh Embodiments (which includes the Fifth Embodiment) including the apparatus of the Seventh Embodiment.

Additionally, in support of one interpretation of Claim 1, Applicants cited FIG. 12B (the Sixth Embodiment) as an example. Claim 1, for example, recites a substrate (4010), an insulating film (6003) formed over the substrate, an electroluminescence element formed over the substrate, the electroluminescence element comprising an anode (4027), an emission layer (4029) formed over the

anode, a cathode (4030) formed over the emission layer, a lens (cover member 6000) formed over the electroluminescence element, an adhesive (6004) in contact with the insulating film and the lens, and that the lens (6000) has a spherical surface to which the electroluminescence element emits a light. The Examiner contends that the specification does not disclose whether or not the cover member (6000) functions as a lens. However, page 16, lns. 13-14 of the specification states that the cover member 6000 must be transmissible depending on the light emitting direction of the EL element. As explained above, the Ninth Embodiment in the specification discloses that the cover member (6000) on the light emitting side in the electroluminescence element can be used as a lens.¹ As the Examiner pointed out, in the Embodiments of Figures 14 and 16, the EL display element is shown to emit light in two different directions. However, in the subject application, there is no problem that the substrate 4010 is used as a lens. The subject application discloses that the feature of the Fifth Embodiment, in which one of the substrates has a spherical surface to which the display element emits a light and acts a lens, can be applied to an electroluminescence display device (such as in the Sixth Embodiment).

Accordingly, Claims 1-16 and 20-31 clearly describe and would enable one skilled in the art, after reading and considering the specification and drawings in their entirety, to make and/or use the invention. Therefore, Applicants have complied with the enablement requirement and respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn. If the Examiner has any questions, the undersigned requests that the Examiner call so that this rejection and explanation can be discussed further.

¹ The Ninth Embodiment mentions the Seventh Embodiment which is a variation on the Sixth Embodiment but not a variation of the cover member of the Sixth Embodiment. See e.g. page 17, lns. 4-5 of the present application. Hence, the teaching in the Ninth Embodiment as to the Seventh Embodiment also applies to the Sixth Embodiment.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102

The Examiner also rejects Claims 1-16 and 20-27 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Takahara (US 6,219,113). This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

More specifically, independent Claims 1, 5, and 9 recite “an adhesive in contact with the insulating film and the lens”, while independent Claim 13 recites “an adhesive in contact with the substrate and the lens.”

Applicants respectfully submit that these claimed features are not disclosed or suggested by Takahara, as previously explained in Amendment E filed November 14, 2005. The remarks therein are incorporated herein by reference.

Further, no showing has been made in the Office Action as to where these claimed features are allegedly disclosed in the cited reference. Accordingly, the rejection of the claims is insufficient. If the Examiner is going to maintain this rejection, then it is respectfully submitted that a new non-final Office Action needs to be issued showing where this claimed feature is allegedly shown in the reference.

Accordingly, this rejection is improper. Further, Takahara does not disclose or suggest the display device of independent Claims 1, 5, 9 and 13 and these independent claims and the claims dependent thereon are patentable over this reference. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

The Examiner also rejects Claims 28-31 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahara. This rejection is also respectfully traversed.

Each of these claims is a dependent claim. Therefore, for at least the reasons discussed above

for the independent claims, these claims are also patentable over the cited reference. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and should be allowed.

If any fee is due for this response, please charge our deposit account 50/1039.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark J. Murphy', is written over a horizontal line.

Mark J. Murphy
Registration No. 34,225

COOK, ALEX, McFARRON, MANZO,
CUMMINGS & MEHLER, Ltd.
200 West Adams Street, Suite 2850
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 236-8500

Customer no. 26568